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Hearing Date: August 9, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. (Prevailing Eastern Time) Objection Deadline: August 4, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. (Prevailing Eastern Time)

ROPES & GRAY LLP Gregg M. Galardi Jonathan P. Gill Marc B. Roitman Stacy A. Dasaro 1211 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10036-8704 Telephone: (212) 596-9000 Facsimile: (212) 596-9090

Counsel to the Debtors and Debtors in Possession

# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

In re : Chapter 11

Gawker Media LLC, et al., 1 : Case No. 16-11700 (SMB)

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Debtors. : (Jointly Administered)

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NOTICE OF DEBTORS' APPLICATION PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 327(e), 328(a), AND 330 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE, BANKRUPTCY RULES 2014 AND 2016, AND LOCAL RULES 2014-1 AND 2016-1 FOR ENTRY OF AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE RETENTION AND EMPLOYMENT OF THOMAS & LOCICERO PL AS SPECIAL LITIGATION COUNSEL EFFECTIVE NUNC PRO TUNC TO THE PETITION DATE

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that a hearing (the "Hearing") on the Application (the "Application" a copy of which is attached hereto) of the above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "Debtors") for entry of an order authorizing the Debtors to retain and employ Thomas & LoCicero PL as special litigation counsel effective *nunc pro tunc* to the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The last four digits of the taxpayer identification number of the debtors are: Gawker Media LLC (0492); Gawker Media Group, Inc. (3231); and Kinja Kft. (5056). The offices of Gawker Media LLC and Gawker Media Group, Inc. are located at 114 Fifth Avenue, 2d Floor, New York, NY 10011. Kinja Kft.'s offices are located at Andrassy ut 66. 1062 Budapest, Hungary.

Petition Date will be held before the Honorable Stuart M. Bernstein of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York (the "Court"), in Room 723, One Bowling Green, New York, New York 10004-1408, on **August 9, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.** (prevailing Eastern Time).

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that responses or objections to the Application and the relief requested therein, if any, shall be in writing, shall conform to the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure and the Local Bankruptcy Rules for the Southern District of New York, shall set forth the basis for the response or objection and the specific grounds therefore, and shall be filed with the Court electronically in accordance with General Order M-399 by registered users of the Court's case filing system (the User's Manual for the Electronic Case Filing System can be found at http://www.nysb.uscourts.gov, the official website for the Court), with a hard copy delivered directly to chambers and served so as to be actually received no later than **August** 4, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time) (the "Objection Deadline"), upon: (i) the Debtors, Gawker Media LLC, 114 Fifth Avenue, 2d Floor, New York, NY 10011, Attn. Heather Dietrick (heather@gawker.com); (ii) counsel for the Debtors, Ropes & Gray LLP, 1211 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036, Attn: Gregg M. Galardi (gregg.galardi@ropesgray.com); (iii) the Office of the United States Trustee for the Southern District of New York, 201 Varick Street, Suite 1006, New York, NY 10014, Attn: Greg Zipes & Susan Arbeit; (iv) the Internal Revenue Service; (v) the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York; (vi) proposed counsel to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors, Simpson Thacher & Bartlett, 425 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10017, Attn: Sandy Qusba (squsba@stblaw.com) and William T. Russell (wrussell@stblaw.com); (vii) counsel to US VC Partners LP, as Prepetition Second Lien Lender, Latham & Watkins LLP, 330 North Wabash

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Avenue, Suite 2800, Chicago, IL 60611, Attn: David Heller (david.heller@lw.com) & Keith A. Simon, 885 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10022, Attn: Keith A. Simon (keith.simon@lw.com); (viii) counsel to Cerberus Business Finance, LLC, as DIP Lender, Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP, 919 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10022, Attn: Adam C. Harris (adam.harris@srz.com); (ix) Thomas & LoCicero PL, 601 S. Boulevard, Tampa, FL 33603, Attn: Gregg D. Thomas, (gthomas@tlolawfirm.com); and (x) those persons who have formally appeared and requested service in these cases pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that a copy of the Application may be obtained free of charge by visiting the website of Prime Clerk LLC at https://cases.primeclerk.com/gawker. You may also obtain copies of any pleadings by visiting the Court's website at http://www.nysb.uscourts.gov in accordance with the procedures and fees set forth therein.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Hearing may be continued or adjourned thereafter from time to time without further notice other than an announcement of the adjourned date or dates at the Hearing or at a later hearing. The Debtors will file an agenda before the Hearing, which may modify or supplement the Application to be heard at the Hearing.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that if no objections or other responses are timely filed and served with respect to the Application, the Debtors may, on or after the Objection Deadline, submit to the Court an order substantially in the form annexed as Exhibit A to the Application, which order the Court may enter with no further notice or opportunity to be heard.

Dated: July 25, 2016

New York, New York

/s/ Gregg M. Galardi

Gregg M. Galardi Jonathan P. Gill Marc B. Roitman Stacy A. Dasaro

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Hearing Date: August 9, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. (Prevailing Eastern Time) Objection Deadline: August 4, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. (Prevailing Eastern Time)

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Counsel to the Debtors and Debtors in Possession

# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

| Chapter 11 | Case No. 16-11700 (SMB) | Cas

DEBTORS' APPLICATION PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 327(e), 328(a) AND 330 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE, BANKRUPTCY RULES 2014 AND 2016 AND LOCAL RULES 2014-1 AND 2016-1 FOR ENTRY OF AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE RETENTION AND EMPLOYMENT OF THOMAS & LOCICERO PL AS SPECIAL LITIGATION COUNSEL EFFECTIVE NUNC PRO TUNC TO THE PETITION DATE

Gawker Media LLC ("<u>Gawker Media</u>") and its affiliated debtors and debtors in possession in the above-captioned chapter 11 cases (collectively, the "<u>Debtors</u>") respectfully submit this application (the "<u>Application</u>") for entry of an order under, substantially in the form attached hereto as <u>Exhibit A</u>, authorizing the Debtors to retain Thomas & LoCicero PL ("<u>TLo</u>")

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The last four digits of the taxpayer identification number of the debtors are: Gawker Media LLC (0492); Gawker Media Group, Inc. (3231); and Kinja Kft. (5056). The offices of Gawker Media LLC and Gawker Media Group, Inc. are located at 114 Fifth Avenue, 2d Floor, New York, NY 10011. Kinja Kft.'s offices are located at Andrassy ut 66. 1062 Budapest, Hungary.

as special litigation counsel, *nunc pro tunc* to the Petition Date (as defined below) pursuant to sections 327(e), 328(a), and 330 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"), Rules 2014 and 2016 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), and Rules 2014-1 and 2016-1 of the Local Bankruptcy Rules for the Southern District of New York (the "Local Rules"). In support of the Application, the Debtors submit the Declaration of Gregg D. Thomas (the "Thomas Declaration"), attached hereto as Exhibit B, and (ii) the Declaration of William D. Holden (the "Holden Declaration"), attached hereto as Exhibit C. In support of the Motion, the Debtors hereby incorporate by reference the *Declaration of William D. Holden in Support of First Day Motions* (the "First Day Declaration"). [Docket No. 7]. In further support of the Application, the Debtors respectfully represent as follows:

### **Jurisdiction**

- 1. This Court has jurisdiction to consider and determine this application pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334. This is a core proceeding within the meaning of 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2).
  - 2. Venue is proper before this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409
- 3. The statutory predicates for the relief requested herein are Sections 327(e), 328(a), 330 and 1107(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rules 2014 and 2016, and Local Rules 2014-1 and 2016-1.

#### **Procedural Background**

- 4. On June 10, 2016, Gawker Media filed a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. On June 12, 2016, Gawker Media Group, Inc. and Kinja Kft. each filed a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 5. On June 16, 2016 the Court entered an order authorizing the joint administration and procedural consolidation of the Debtors' chapter 11 cases pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule

1015(b) [Docket No. 41].

- 6. On June 24, 2016, the United States Trustee for the Southern District of New York (the "<u>U.S. Trustee</u>") appointed the official committee of unsecured creditors (the "<u>Committee</u>"). No request for the appointment of a trustee or examiner has been made in these chapter 11 cases.
- 7. The Debtors are operating their businesses as debtors in possession pursuant to sections 1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 8. The factual background regarding the Debtors, their business operations, their capital and debt structure, and the events leading up to the filing of these Chapter 11 Cases are set forth in detail in the First Day Declaration.

### **Relief Requested**

9. The Debtors seek an order of this Court, pursuant to Sections 327(e), 328(a) and 330 of the Bankruptcy Code, and Bankruptcy Rules 2014 and 2016, and Local Rules 2014-1 and 2016-1 authorizing the Debtors to employ and retain TLo *nunc pro tunc* to the Petition Date, in accordance with the provisions of the October 12, 2012 engagement letter by and between TLo and the Gawker Media LLC (the "Engagement Agreement"), this Application, and the proposed Order submitted herewith, as the Debtors' special counsel to perform legal services attendant to certain litigation, as more fully described herein. For the reasons set forth below, the Debtors submit that the relief requested is in the best interest of the Debtors, their estates, their creditors, stakeholders, and other parties in interest, and therefore, should be granted.

#### The Retention of TLo

10. The Debtors seek to retain TLo as special litigation counsel because of TLo's experience, knowledge and familiarity with certain lawsuits involving the Debtors' business and

operations. Since on or about October 15, 2012, TLo has represented the Debtors before many courts throughout Florida in connection with certain lawsuits, described in paragraph 11-12 below (the "Actions"). Accordingly, the Debtors submits that TLo's knowledge, expertise, and experience of the Debtors' business and operations in connection with all issues, matters or controversies that may concern these the Actions qualify TLo to work on behalf of the Debtors' estate in the most efficient and cost-effective manner.

TLo was first retained in October 2012 to defend Gawker Media and certain 11. affiliated entities, as well as individuals Nick Denton, A.J. Daulerio and Kate Bennert against privacy and related claims brought by Terry Gene Bollea, the wrestler and celebrity known as "Hulk Hogan," arising from Gawker's publication of excerpts from a tape depicting him engaged in an affair with Heather Clem, the wife of his best friend, radio "shock jock" Bubba the Love Sponge Clem (the "Bollea I Litigation"). That case was originally filed in federal court, and captioned Bollea v. Gawker Media, LLC, 8:12-cv-2348-T-27TBM (M.D. Fla.). After several motions seeking preliminary injunctive relief were denied by the federal court on First Amendment grounds, see, e.g., Bollea v. Gawker Media, LLC, 2012 WL 5509624 (M.D. Fla. Nov. 14, 2012); Bollea v. Gawker Media, LLC, 913 F. Supp. 2d 1325 (M.D. Fla. 2012), the plaintiff dismissed his federal court action, and re-filed his claims in state court, adding them to an existing lawsuit against the Clems. See Bollea v. Gawker Media, LLC, et al., No. 12012447-CI-011 (Fla. Cir. Ct.). That case has involved extensive proceedings in the Florida courts. Following the dismissal of the other defendants, the case was tried in March 2016 against Gawker Media, LLC, Nick Denton and A.J. Daulerio, and resulted in a \$140.1 million verdict, which ultimately precipitated these Chapter 11 proceedings and the appeal of which is a significant event needed to conclude them. The resolution of the appeal of Bollea I will be a significant milestone in these chapter 11 cases. In May 2016, TLo was retained to represent Gawker Media in *Bollea v. Buchwwald & Assocs., et al.*, No. 16-002861-CI (Fla. Cir. Ct.) ("*Bollea II*"), a case arising from plaintiff's claims regarding the alleged leak of a summary transcript describing another sex tape involving Bollea and Heather Clem in which he made a series of racist and homophobic comments Bollea made on another sex tape involving him and Heather Clem, which he claims caused him injury.

- 12. The professional services to be provided by TLo, which include but shall not be limited to the matters described in paragraph 11 are collectively referred to as the "Services."
- 13. The Debtors require and will continue to require the Services throughout these chapter 11 cases. Though the automatic stay has blocked the immediate prosecution of the Actions, the Debtors will need TLo's expertise during the bankruptcy cases to advise them on matter concerning the Actions, including the preliminary injunction, automatic stay, appeals and related matters.
- 14. No other law firm is providing the Debtors with the Services, except that Levine Sullivan Koch & Schulz, LLP, 1899 L Street NW, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20036 and Brannock & Humphries, 1111 West Cass Street, Suite 200, Tampa FL, 33606, are also providing services as trial and appellate counsel in connection with *Bollea I* and *Bollea II*. Thomas & LoCicero will work with Ropes & Gray LLP ("Ropes & Gray"), and, if approved by the Court, Levine Sullivan Koch & Schulz and Brannock & Humphries, to ensure that the services provided by each firm are complimentary of each other and not duplicative.
- 15. If the Debtors were required to retain counsel other than TLo for the Actions, the Debtors, their estates, and all parties in interest would lose the benefit of TLo's experience and expertise on the matters for which TLo has been serving the Debtors prior to the filing of these

chapter 11 cases. Moreover, the disruption and duplicative costs involved in replacing TLo on the Actions at this juncture on all actions, matters, issues and controversies described in the preceding paragraphs would be harmful to the Debtors, their estates, and their creditors.

- 16. The Debtors respectfully submit that TLo is well-qualified and uniquely able to provide the specialized legal advice sought by the Debtors as set forth herein in an efficient and cost-effective manner, and TLo's retention as special litigation counsel is in the best interests of the Debtors and their estates.
- 17. TLo's services are appropriate and necessary to enable the Debtors to achieve final resolution in the pending lawsuits.

## **No Adverse Interest**

- 18. As discussed in the Thomas Declaration, TLo does not represent or hold an interest adverse to the Debtors with regard to the Services. Except as set forth in the Thomas Declaration or as described below, to the best of the Debtors' knowledge, TLo has not represented the Debtors' creditors or any other parties in interest or their respective attorneys in any matter relating to the Debtors or their estates.
- 19. As discussed in the Thomas Declaration, TLo has a *de minimis* claim against the Gawker Media for prepetition services. TLo has provided services to Gawker Media LLC, A.J. Daulerio and Nick Denton up through the time of the filing of this Application. As of the Petition Date, TLo is owed \$3,475.20 on account of prepetition services. As of the date of this Application, TLo has incurred and billed for time and expenses for the period beginning on the petition date through the date of this Application, in the amount of \$6,711.31. However, it is possible that TLo will learn of disbursements incurred prior to July 2016 that have not yet been billed by, or paid to, its respective vendors.

- 20. In the ninety days prior to the Petition Date, the Debtors paid TLo an aggregate of \$248,400.64 on account of their obligations for TLo's other services in connection with the Actions. During that time period, among other things, TLo assisted in the preparation of extensive pretrial motions. TLo lawyers also assisted and advised lead counsel in the selection of a jury from a venire pool that was in excess of 500 people. TLo lawyers attended every day of the trial that lasted for approximately two and half weeks and helped plan for the cross-examination of plaintiff's witness and assisted in the preparation of witness outlines for Gawker Media, Nick Denton, and A.J. Daulerio. TLo lawyers assisted in the revision and modification of jury instructions on the liability elements of the claims and on compensatory and punitive damages instructions. Finally, TLo lawyers assisted in the preparation of extensive post-trial motions challenging the liability verdict and judgment that was in excess of 140 million dollars.
- 21. TLo also represents certain non-Debtor defendants in various lawsuits. However, as set forth in the Thomas Declaration, the Debtors do not believe that there is a material conflict between the respective interests of the Debtors and non-Debtor defendants. As set forth in the Thomas Declaration, in all cases in which TLo represents multiple defendants in the same action, it does so after determining that joint representation comports with the applicable rules of professional responsibility.

#### **Professional Compensation**

22. Subject to Court approval, and in accordance with section 330(a) of the Bankruptcy Code and the United States Trustee's Guidelines for Reviewing Applications for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses (the "Fee Guidelines"), and the *Order Establishing Procedures for Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses of Professionals* (the "Interim Compensation Order") [Docket No. 94], and as set forth in the

Thomas Declaration, the Debtors propose to compensate TLo on an hourly basis, plus reimbursement of actual, necessary expenses and other charges incurred by TLo according to its customary reimbursement policies. The principal attorneys presently designated to represent the Debtors and their current standard hourly rates are: Partners - \$495 - \$320; Associates - \$230 - \$215; Paralegals - \$170.

- 23. The hourly rates set forth above are subject to periodic adjustments to reflect economic and other conditions. Other attorneys and paralegals may from time to time serve the Debtors in connection with the matters described in this application.
- 24. The hourly rates set forth above are TLo's standard hourly rates as of 2012, which have been and continue to remain in effect.
- 25. TLo will maintain detailed, contemporaneous records of time and any actual and necessary expenses incurred in connection with the rendering of the legal services described above by category and nature of services rendered.

### **Statement Regarding U.S. Trustee Guidelines**

26. TLo intends to apply for compensation for professional services rendered and reimbursement of expenses incurred in connection with this chapter 11 case in compliance with applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rules, Local Rules, the Fee Guidelines, and this Court's *Order Establishing Procedures for Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses of Professionals* (the "Interim Compensation Order") [Docket No. 94]. Subject to attorney client privilege limitations, TLo also intends to make a reasonable effort to comply with the U.S. Trustee's requests for information and additional disclosures as set forth in the Fee Guidelines, both in connection with this Application and fee applications to be filed by TLo in these chapter 11 cases.

27. The following information is provided in response to the request for additional information set forth in Paragraph D.1. of the Fee Guidelines:

Question: Did you agree to any variations from, or alternatives to, your standard or customary billing arrangements for this engagement?

Answer: No. The hourly rates charged by TLo for this engagement are consistent

with the rates TLo charges for other comparable clients. The rate structure

provided by TLo is standard and not discounted.

Question: Do any of the professionals included in this engagement vary their

rate based on the geographic location of the bankruptcy case?

Answer: No.

Question: If you represented the client in the 12 months prepetition, disclose

your billing rates and material financial terms for the prepetition engagement, including any adjustments during the 12 months prepetition. If your billing rates and material financial terms have changed postpetition, explain the difference and the reasons for the

difference.

Answer: During the 12 month prepetition period, TLo represented and provided

legal services to the Debtors mainly pursuant to the agreement dated October 25, 2012 with, among others, Gawker Media LLC and covered the Middle District of Florida, Pinellas County Circuit and Second District Court of Appeal, and other similar lawsuits filed against Gawker Media

LLC and others.

Question: Has your client approved your prospective budget and staffing plan,

and, if so for what budget period?

Answer: TLo and the Debtors are currently working on a budget and staffing plan

for TLo's work for the Debtors. The budget contemplates that TLo will assist the Debtor with the litigations in which TLo already represents the Debtors. The budget necessarily involves a projection of future events with limited information and is subject to change as the case develops. The Debtors anticipates a budget and staffing plan will be approved by the

Debtors in the near future.

#### **Basis for Relief**

28. Section 327(e) of the Bankruptcy Code authorizes a debtor in possession to employ one or more attorneys to represent the debtor on specified matters so long as those

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attorneys do not represent or hold any interest adverse to the debtor or to the estate with respect to the matter on which they are to be employed. See 11 U.S.C. § 327(e). Moreover, section 1107(b) of the Bankruptcy Code provides that "a person is not disqualified for employment under section 327 . . . solely because of such person's employment by or representation of the debtor before the commencement of the case." See 11 U.S.C. § 1107(b).

- 29. Section 328(a) of the Bankruptcy Code authorizes the employment of a professional person "on any reasonable terms and conditions of employment, including on a retainer [or] on an hourly basis . . ." 11 U.S.C. § 328(a).
- 30. As discussed above, TLo has a \$3,475.20 prepetition claim against Gawker Media LLC. That claim for prepetition fees does not disqualify special counsel under section 327(e), as it would under section 327(a). Although TLo might not be "disinterested" by virtue of its claim against Gawker Media, TLo is nevertheless qualified to be retained under section 327(e) because it does not have an "interest adverse to the debtor or to the estate with respect to the matter on which [it] is to be employed." *See* 11 U.S.C. § 327(e); *AroChem*, 176 F.3d at 622.
- 31. As discussed above, TLo received \$248,400.64 within the ninety days prior to the petition date in light of the active defense of a major lawsuit, including one action that went through trial and post-trial motions during that period. The receipt of prepetition payments does not preclude a law firm from being employed as special counsel under section 327(e) so long as the receipt of such payment does not cause it to "hold any interest adverse to the debtor or to the estate with respect to the matter on which [it] is to be employed." 11 U.S.C. § 327(e); see also In re Mortgages Ltd., No. 08-07465 (RJH), 2008 WL 5084925, at \*1-2 (Bankr. D. Ariz. Aug. 14, 2008) ("[T]he potential receipt of a preference does not disqualify a firm from employment as special counsel when the debtor's and the firm's interests are parallel with respect to the matters

for which the firm is to be employed."); cf. Giuliano v. Ernst & Young, LLP (In re RIH Acquisitions NJ, LLC), No. 13-34483, 2016 WL 2996950, at \*4 (Bankr. D. N.J. May 24, 2016) (analogizing retention of ordinary course professional to retention under section 327(e) and concluding that Court need not address whether professional received preferential transfers to approve its retention). Indeed, "[s]ince the role of special counsel is, by definition, limited, the trustee need only show that there is no adverse interest related to that role itself." See Hogil Pharmaceutical Corp. v. Sapir (In re Innomed Labs, LLC), No. 07-cv-4778 (WCC), 2008 WL 276490 (S.D.N.Y. Jan. 29, 2008); see also Bank of Brussels Lambert v. Coan (In re AroChem Corp.), 176 F.3d 610, 622 (2d Cir. 1992) ("we should reason by analogy to 327(e), so that 'where the trustee seeks to appoint counsel only as 'special counsel' for a specific matter, there need only be no conflict between the trustee and counsel's creditor client with respect to the specific matter itself."). This Court and other courts in this district have approved retentions of counsel under section 327(e) where the law firm to be retained received substantial payments within the ninety days prior to the petition date. See, e.g., In re SunEdison, Inc., No. 16-10992 (SMB) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. May 20, 2016) [Docket No. 361] (approving section 327(e) retention of law firm that received approximately \$2.37 million in fees for legal services during the ninety days before the petition date); In re Apex Silver Mines Ltd., No. 09-10182 (JMP) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Jan. 22, 2009) [Docket No. 57] (approving section 327(e) retention of law firm that received unspecified compensation during the ninety days before the petition date). Accordingly, the fact that the Debtors paid TLo for services rendered on a prepetition basis does not disqualify TLo from being retained pursuant to section 327(e). Moreover, TLo may have various meritorious defenses to any potential preference claim.

32. Additionally, TLo's representation of non-Debtor defendants does not give rise to

an adverse interest on the matters for which TLo is to be engaged. As set forth in the Thomas Declaration, the Debtors and TLo believe that the interests of the Debtors and the non-Debtor defendants are aligned, and are unlikely to diverge.

- 33. Finally, *nunc pro tunc* relief is appropriate here. Since the Petition Date, the Debtors have worked diligently on various matters related to the proposed sale of substantially all of its assets, and were preparing for the evidentiary hearing that was held in this Court on July 19, 2016. The Debtors respectfully submit that the filing of this Application is appropriate and timely under the circumstances, so as to justify *nunc pro tunc* relief.
- 34. For the reasons set forth in this Application and the Thomas Declaration, the Debtors submit that TLo's retention and employment satisfies section 327(e) and this Application should be approved. If the Debtors were required to retain counsel other than TLo in connection with the Actions, the Debtors, their estates, and all parties in interest would be severely prejudiced, as the Debtors would lose TLo's invaluable experience and knowledge on, *inter alia*, the litigation matters described above. Accordingly, it is in the best interests of the Debtors and their estates to retain TLo.

### **Waiver of Stay**

35. The Debtors also request that the Court waive the stay imposed by Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h), which providers that "[a]n order authorizing the use, sale, or lease of property other than cash collateral is stayed until the expiration of 14 days after entry of the order, unless the Court orders otherwise." Fed. R. Bankr. P. 6004(h). As described above, the relief that the Debtors seek in this Application is necessary for the Debtors to protect their interests in pending litigation and to preserve value for their estates. Accordingly, the Debtors respectfully request that the Court waive the fourteen-day stay imposed by Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h), as the need for

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the relief sought herein justifies immediate relief.

### **Notice**

Notice of this Motion has been provided to (i) the Office of the United States Trustee for the Southern District of New York; (ii) the Internal Revenue Service; (iii) the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York; (iv) proposed counsel to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors; (v) counsel to US VC Partners LP, as Prepetition Second Lien Lender; (vi) counsel to Cerberus Business Finance, LLC, as DIP Lender; (v) Counsel to the Stalking Horse Bidder; (vi) those persons who have formally appeared and requested service in these cases pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002; and (vii) Thomas & LoCicero. In light of the nature of the relief requested, the Debtors submit that no other or further notice is necessary.

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WHEREFORE, the Debtors respectfully request that this Court enter an Order (a) authorizing the Debtors to retain TLo as special litigation counsel to the Debtors, *nunc pro tunc* to the Petition Date, for the purposes and upon the terms set forth herein; and (b) granting to the Debtors such other and further relief as may be just or proper.

Respectfully submitted,

Gawker Media LLC,

Dated: July 25, 2016

By: Heather Dietrick

President and General Counsel

## Exhibit A

**Proposed Order** 

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# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

		Х	
In re		: :	Chapter 11
Gawker Media LL	.C, et al., 1	: :	Case No. 16-11700 (SMB)
	Debtors.	: :	(Jointly Administered)
		:	

ORDER GRANTING DEBTORS' APPLICATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 327(e), 328(a) AND 330 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE, BANKRUPTCY RULES 2014 AND 2016, AND LOCAL RULES 2014-1 AND 2016-1 FOR ENTRY OF AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE RETENTION AND EMPLOYMENT OF THOMAS & LOCICERO AS SPECIAL LITIGATION COUNSEL EFFECTIVE NUNC PRO TUNC TO THE PETITION DATE

Upon the application (the "Application")<sup>2</sup> of the Debtors for an Order, pursuant to sections 327(e), 328(a) and 330 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"), Rules 2014(a) and 2016 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), and Local Rules 2014-1 and 2016-1 of the Local Bankruptcy Rules for the Southern District of New York (the "Local Rules") authorizing the employment of Thomas & LoCicero as special counsel to the Debtors *nunc pro tunc* to the Petition Date; and upon the First Day Declaration, the Thomas Declaration, and the Holden Declaration; and the Court having reviewed the Application, the First Day Declaration, the Thomas Declaration, and the Holden Declaration; and the Court being satisfied with the representations made in the Application and the Thomas Declaration that Thomas & LoCicero represents no adverse interest to the Debtors with respect

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The last four digits of the taxpayer identification number of the debtors are: Gawker Media LLC (0492); Gawker Media Group, Inc. (3231); and Kinja Kft. (5056). The offices of Gawker Media LLC and Gawker Media Group, Inc. are located at 114 Fifth Avenue, 2d Floor, New York, NY 10011. Kinja Kft.'s offices are located at Andrassy ut 66. 1062 Budapest, Hungary.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Capitalized terms used herein but not otherwise defined shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Application.

to the matters on which Thomas & LoCicero will be employed, that its employment is necessary and in the best interests of the Debtors' estates, creditors, and other parties in interest; and it appearing that the Court has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334; and it further appearing that this matter is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b); and venue being proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and due and sufficient notice of the Application having been given under the particular circumstances; and it appearing that no other or further notice need be provided; and upon the record herein; and after due deliberation thereon; and sufficient cause appearing therefor, it is hereby

#### ORDERED THAT,

- 1. The Application is GRANTED as set forth herein.
- 2. Pursuant to sections 327(e) and 328(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Debtors, as debtors and debtors in possession, are authorized to employ and retain Thomas & LoCicero as special counsel effective *nunc pro tunc* to the Petition Date, in accordance with the Application, the Engagement Agreement, the Thomas Declaration, the Holden Declaration, and this Order, to perform the Services.
- 3. To the extent the Application or the Engagement Agreement is inconsistent with this Order, the terms of this Order shall govern.
- 4. Thomas & LoCicero shall be compensated in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Bankruptcy Rules, and the *Order Establishing Procedures for Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses of Professionals* (the "Interim Compensation Order") [Docket No. 94]; *provided that*, Thomas & LoCicero may redact information from its time entries that it determines, in its sole discretion to

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be privileged information in connection with service of monthly fee statements on the

Committee, in members and/or any of their representatives.

5. Prior to applying any increases in its hourly rates beyond the rates set forth in the

Application, Thomas & LoCicero shall provide ten days' notice of any such increases to the

Debtors, the United States Trustee, counsel to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors,

counsel to US VC Partners as Second Lien Lender, and Cerberus Business Finance LLC as DIP

Lender and file the notice on ECF. The United States Trustee retains all rights to object to such

rate increase.

6. Notwithstanding any stay that might be imposed by Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h) or

otherwise, this Order shall be effective and enforceable immediately upon entry hereof.

7. Notwithstanding any provisions in the Engagement Agreement to the contrary,

during the pendency of these chapter 11 cases, Thomas & LoCicero will not represent present or

future clients of Thomas & LoCicero on matters adverse to the Debtors in these cases.

8. Notwithstanding any provision in the Engagement Agreement to the contrary, any

retainers shall be applied to the payment of fees and costs as they are approved by the Court

pursuant to the Interim Compensation Order.

9. The Debtors are authorized and empowered to take all actions necessary to

implement the relief granted in this Order.

10. This Court shall retain jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or

related to the implementation or interpretation of this Order.

Dated: August \_\_\_\_\_, 2016

New York, New York

HONORABLE STUART M. BERNSTEIN

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

3

# Exhibit B

**Thomas Declaration** 

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UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COUI	RT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK	_

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In re : Chapter 11

Gawker Media LLC, et al., Case No. 16-11700 (SMB)

Debtors. : (Jointly Administered)

-----X

DECLARATION OF GREGG D. THOMAS IN SUPPORT OF DEBTORS'
APPLICATION PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 327(e), 328(a) AND 330 OF THE
BANKRUPTCY CODE, BANKRUPTCY RULES 2014 AND 2016, AND LOCAL RULES
2014-1 AND 2016-1 FOR ENTRY OF AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE RETENTION
AND EMPLOYMENT OF THOMAS & LOCICERO AS SPECIAL LITIGATION
COUNSEL EFFECTIVE NUNC PRO TUNC TO THE PETITION DATE

- I, Gregg D. Thomas, make this Declaration, under penalty of perjury pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, and hereby declare as follows:
- 1. I am a partner at Thomas & LoCicero ("TLO") and duly authorized to make this Declaration on behalf of TLO. I make this Declaration in support of the Application of Debtors Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §§ 327(e), 328(a) and 330, Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2014(a) and 2016, and Local Rules 2014-1 and 2016-1 for entry of an order authorizing the retention and employment of TLO as special litigation counsel effective *nunc pro tunc* to the Petition Date.<sup>2</sup> I am admitted and in good standing to practice law in the State of Florida and before the United States District Courts for the Southern, Middle, and Northern Districts of Florida.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The last four digits of the taxpayer identification number of the debtors are: Gawker Media LLC (0492); Gawker Media Group, Inc. (3231); and Kinja Kft. (5056). The offices of Gawker Media LLC and Gawker Media Group, Inc. are located at 114 Fifth Avenue, 2d Floor, New York, NY 10011. Kinja Kft.'s offices are located at Andrassy ut 66. 1062 Budapest, Hungary.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein have the meanings ascribed to them in the Application.

2. The statements set forth below are based upon my personal knowledge or discussions with other partners and associates of TLO, and client/matter records of TLO, reviewed by myself or by associates of TLO acting under my supervision and direction.

### Retention of Thomas & LoCicero As Special Counsel for the Debtors

- 3. TLO is well qualified to serve as the Debtors' special counsel in these cases. TLO is a regional law firm that litigates matters in the fields of media law, entertainment, and intellectual property. The firm has three offices (Tampa, Ft. Lauderdale, and Lake Worth, Florida) and eleven (11) lawyers who are litigation experts involving media, First Amendment, copyright, trademark and commercial matters.
- 4. Pursuant to the Application, the Debtors seek authority to retain TLO, nunc pro tunc to the Petition Date, to render legal services relating to (the "Actions"). TLo was first retained in October 2012 to defend Gawker Media and certain affiliated entities, as well as individuals Nick Denton, A.J. Daulerio and Kate Bennert against privacy and related claims brought by Terry Gene Bollea, the wrestler and celebrity known as "Hulk Hogan," arising from Gawker's publication of excerpts from a tape depicting him engaged in an affair with Heather Clem, the wife of his best friend, radio "shock jock" Bubba the Love Sponge Clem (the "Bollea I Litigation"). That case was originally filed in federal court, and captioned *Bollea v. Gawker* Media, LLC, 8:12-cv-2348-T-27TBM (M.D. Fla.). After several motions seeking preliminary injunctive relief were denied by the federal court on First Amendment grounds, see, e.g., Bollea v. Gawker Media, LLC, 2012 WL 5509624 (M.D. Fla. Nov. 14, 2012); Bollea v. Gawker Media, LLC, 913 F. Supp. 2d 1325 (M.D. Fla. 2012), the plaintiff dismissed his federal court action, and re-filed his claims in state court, adding them to an existing lawsuit against the Clems. See Bollea v. Gawker Media, LLC, et al., No. 12012447-CI-011 (Fla. Cir. Ct.). That case has involved extensive proceedings in the Florida courts. Following the dismissal of the other

defendants, the case was tried in March 2016 against Gawker Media, LLC, Nick Denton and A.J. Daulerio, and resulted in a \$140.1 million verdict, which ultimately precipitated these Chapter 11 proceedings and the appeal of which is a significant event needed to conclude them. The resolution of the appeal of *Bollea I* will be a significant milestone in these chapter 11 cases. In May 2016, TLo was retained to represent Gawker Media in *Bollea v. Buchwwald & Assocs., et al.*, No. 16-002861-CI (Fla. Cir. Ct.) ("*Bollea II*"), a case arising from plaintiff's claims regarding the alleged leak of a summary transcript describing another sex tape involving Bollea and Heather Clem in which he made a series of racist and homophobic comments Bollea made on another sex tape involving him and Heather Clem, which he claims caused him injury.

- 5. The services to be provided by TLO, relating to the Actions, are collectively referred to herein as the "Services."
- throughout these chapter 11 cases, that the claims against the Debtors will likely continue in one forum or another, and that the Debtors will require TLO's expertise in responding to such claims, as well as in providing ongoing counseling and legal advice regarding the editorial content issues (of the type described in paragraph 5(f) above), which is necessary as Debtors continue to operate their business and prepare it for sale. No other law firm, with the exception of Levine Sullivan Koch & Schulz ("LSKS"), 1899 L. St. NW, Washington DC, and Brannock & Humphries, 1111West Cass Street, Suite 200, Tampa FL, 336606, has worked with TLO to provide the Services. LSKS and Brannock & Humphries are trial and appellate counsel respectively in connection with *Bollea I* and *Bollea II*. TLO will coordinate with LSKS, Brannock & Humphries, and Ropes & Gray LLP to ensure that the services provided by each firm are complimentary of each other and not duplicative.

# No Adverse Interest with Respect to the Matters on which Thomas & LoCicero is to be Retained

- 7. In connection with its proposed retention under section 327(e) of the Bankruptcy Code, TLO searched its client/matter records to determine whether it had any conflicts or other connections that might cause it to hold or represent an interest adverse to the Debtors with respect to the matters on which TLO is to be employed (the "Disclosure Procedures"). As part of the Disclosure Procedures, the Debtors provided TLO with a list of the Debtors' significant prepetition creditors, vendors, professionals, and other potential parties in interest (collectively, the "Interested Parties"), a summary of which is attached as Exhibit 1 to this Declaration. Pursuant to the Disclosure Procedures, TLO performed the actions described below to determine whether TLO or any of its attorneys have any connections with, or are currently representing any Interested Parties in these chapter 11 cases:
  - a. TLO compared each of the Interested Parties to the names that TLO maintains in its master client database created from its conflict clearance records. TLO"s client database includes (i) the name of each current or former client and (ii) the names of the TLO attorneys responsible for managing such current or former matters.
  - b. Any matches between the Interested Parties and the entities in TLO's client database were identified, reviewed by an attorney, and compiled for purposes of this Declaration and are attached as <u>Exhibit 2</u> to this Declaration. An Interested Party is listed as a "current client" on <u>Exhibit 2</u> if TLO's has any open matters for such entity or a known affiliate of such entity. An Interested Party is listed as a "former client" on <u>Exhibit 2</u> if TLO represented such entity or a known affiliate of such entity within

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the past two years based on recorded attorney time charges on a matter, but all matters for such entity or any known affiliate of such entity have been formally closed. An entity is listed as a "potential" current client, former client, or affiliate of a current or former client if it either has a name similar to a client identified as an Interested Party or is or may be related to such a client.

- c. In addition, a general inquiry to all TLO attorneys was sent by electronic mail to determine if any TLO partner, counsel, managing associate, associate, or trainee (i) is related to (A) any United States bankruptcy judge in the Southern District of New York, (B) any employee of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York, or (C) any employee of the Office of the United States Trustee, (ii) owns any debt or equity security of the Debtors other than through mutual funds, blind trusts or other investments as to which individuals have no discretion as to the selection of the underlying assets, (iii) holds a claim against the Debtors, or (iv) is or was an officer, director, or employee of the Debtors.
- 8. The client connections listed on **Exhibit 2** were reviewed by an attorney working under my supervision, and based upon such review, it is my belief that, in respect of each connection between TLO and such parties, TLO, as required by section 327(e) of the Bankruptcy Code, does not hold or represent an interest that is adverse to the Debtors' estates with respect to the Services for which TLO is proposed to be employed.
- 9. TLO employs approximately eleven (11) qualified lawyers in 3 (three) offices in Tampa, Ft. Lauderdale, and Lake Worth, Florida. It has a large and diversified legal

practice that encompasses the representation of many media and entertainment institutions and commercial corporations. Some of these entities are, or may consider themselves to be, creditors or parties in interest in the Debtors' chapter 11 cases or to otherwise have interests in these cases. TLO has represented, currently represents, and/or may represent in the future persons or entities listed among the Interested Parties (or their affiliates) in matters unrelated to the Services for which TLO is to be retained. The lists of the Interested Parties that TLO either currently represents or has represented in the past two years are provided in **Exhibit 2**.

- Interested Parties set forth in **Exhibit 2**, and without limiting such disclosure, to the best of my knowledge and information, none of the Interested Parties represented two percent (2%) or more of TLO's gross revenue for the 12-month period ending December 31, 2015. In addition, none of the Interested Parties represented one percent (1%) or more of TLO's gross revenue for the calendar year to date. To the extent issues may arise that would cause the Debtors to be adverse to the above listed entities, or any other client of TLO, such that it would not be appropriate for TLO to represent the Debtors with respect to those matters, the Debtors' other professionals or special conflicts counsel will represent the Debtors with respect to such issues.
- 11. As a further supplement to TLO's disclosures set forth herein, and without limiting such disclosures, TLO's employees may have and/or may have had dealings with the Debtors in the ordinary course of the Debtors' business.
- 12. Further, TLO, its partners, counsel, managing associates, associates, trainee solicitors and/or other employees of TLO:
  - a. may have appeared in the past, and may appear in the future, in other cases unrelated to these cases or unrelated to the Services for which TLO is to

- be retained where the Debtors' creditors or other parties with an interest in the Debtors may be involved;
- may represent, or may have represented, certain of the Debtors' creditors
  or other parties with an interest in the Debtors in matters that are unrelated
  to these chapter 11 cases or unrelated to the Services for which TLO is to
  be retained; and
- c. may have had dealings with creditors or other parties with an interest in the Debtors that are unrelated to these chapter 11 cases or unrelated to the Services for which TLO is to be retained.
- 13. TLO has conducted a general inquiry of all legal personnel to determine whether any of these individuals owns any debt or equity securities of the Debtors or their affiliates other than in connection with investments in mutual funds, blind trusts or other investments as to which such individual has no discretion as to the selection of the individual underlying assets. Based on responses to this inquiry, I understand that as of the date hereof, none of the TLO personnel surveyed owns any debt or equity securities of the Debtors or their affiliates.
- 14. It should be noted that TLO has a long-standing policy prohibiting all personnel from using confidential information that may come to their attention in the course of their work. In this regard, all TLO personnel are barred from trading in securities with respect to which they possess confidential information. For both listed and unlisted shares, TLO's policy is to prohibit dealing in any shares or securities in situations where personnel may have confidential market- or price-sensitive information relating to the company or the shares or securities in question as a result of work for TLO. Further, TLO's policy is to prohibit its

personnel and any companies, trusts or other entities that personnel control or influence in relation to decisions to trade from dealing in listed securities absent approval from TLO or is carried out by an investment manager under a discretionary management agreement. TLO further restricts share dealing by family members of personnel to the extent those dealings are controlled, influenced, or advised by TLO personnel.

- 15. To the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, insofar as I have been able to ascertain after reasonable inquiry, neither I, nor TLO, nor any partner or associate thereof, has any connection with the United States Trustee for the Southern District of New York or any person employed by the Office of the United States Trustee.
- 16. TLO believes that it can adequately represent the interests of the Debtors. To the best of my knowledge, information and belief, TLO has not represented any creditor, interest holder or other party in interest in connection with their respective dealings with the Debtors in the previous two years, except as disclosed herein. TLO has fully informed the Debtors of its ongoing representation of the entities identified in **Exhibit 2**.
- 17. TLO is confident that its diligence has resulted, to the greatest extent possible, in the disclosure of all potential conflicts. However, Client relationships with persons or entities that are not listed on **Exhibit 1** and **Exhibit 2**, but who may nonetheless be or later become parties in interest in these chapter 11 cases, would not be disclosed in this Declaration. In this regard, if TLO discovers additional information regarding Interested Parties that requires disclosure, it will submit a supplemental disclosure to the Court containing such additional information.
- 18. TLo has a claim against the Gawker Media for prepetition services. TLo has provided services to Gawker Media LLC, A.J. Daulerio and Nick Denton up through the

time of the filing of this Application. As of the Petition Date, TLo is owed \$3,475.20 on account of prepetition services. As of the date of this Application, TLo has incurred and billed for time and expenses for the period beginning on the petition date through the date of this Application, in the amount of \$6,711.31. However, it is possible that TLo will learn of disbursements incurred prior to July 2016 that have not yet been billed by, or paid to, its respective vendors.

- aggregate of \$248,400.64 on account of their obligations for TLo's other services in connection with the Actions. During that time period, among other things, TLo assisted in the preparation of extensive pretrial motions. TLo lawyers also assisted and advised lead counsel in the selection of a jury from a venire pool that was in excess of 500 people. TLo lawyers attended every day of the trial that lasted for approximately two and half weeks and helped plan for the cross-examination of plaintiff's witness and assisted in the preparation of witness outlines for Gawker Media, Nick Denton, and A.J. Daulerio. TLo lawyers assisted in the revision and modification of jury instructions on the liability elements of the claims and on compensatory and punitive damages instructions. Finally, TLo lawyers assisted in the preparation of extensive post-trial motions challenging the liability verdict and judgment that was in excess of 140 million dollars.
- 20. To the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, TLO does not hold or represent an interest adverse to the Debtors or their respective estates with respect to the matters for which TLO is proposed to be retained. Accordingly, I believe that TLO satisfies the requirements for employment as special counsel pursuant to section 327(e) of the Bankruptcy Code.

#### **Professional Compensation**

21. Subject to the Court's approval, TLO will charge for its services on an hourly basis in one-tenth hour (.1) increments, in accordance with the discounted rates it agreed,

prepetition, to provide to Debtors. TLO's range of discounted hourly rates with respect to those TLO lawyers currently expected to spend significant time on these chapter 11 cases, subject to change from time to time, are \$495 - \$320 for partners, \$230 to \$215 for associates, and \$170 for paraprofessionals.

- 22. TLO also intends to seek reimbursement for reasonable expenses incurred in connection with its representation of the Debtors. It is TLO's general policy to charge its clients in all areas of practice for all other expenses incurred in connection with a client's case. TLO will charge the Debtors for these expenses in a manner and at rates consistent with charges made generally to its other clients and at actual cost or an estimated actual cost where the actual cost is difficult to determine.
  - 23. TLO does not currently hold a retainer from the Debtors.

## **Statement Regarding U.S. Trustee Guidelines**

- 24. TLO intends to seek compensation in accordance with the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Rules, any applicable orders of the Court, the *Order Establishing Procedures for Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses of Professionals* (the "Interim Compensation Order") [Docket No. 94], the Amended Guidelines for Fees and Disbursements for Professionals in Southern District of New York Bankruptcy Cases M-447 (Jan. 29, 2013), and the U.S. Trustee Guidelines (the "Fee Guidelines").
- 25. Subject to attorney client privilege limitations, TLO also intends to make a reasonable effort to comply with the U.S. Trustee's requests for information and additional disclosures as set forth in the U.S. Trustee Guidelines, both in connection with this Application and fee applications to be filed by TLO in these chapter 11 cases.
- 26. The following information is provided in response to the request for additional information set forth in Paragraph D.1. of the U.S. Trustee Guidelines:

Question: Did you agree to any variations from, or alternatives to, your standard or customary billing arrangements for this engagement?

Answer: No. The hourly rates charged by TLo for this engagement are consistent

with the rates TLo charges for other comparable clients. The rate structure

provided by TLo is standard and not discounted.

Question: Do any of the professionals included in this engagement vary their

rate based on the geographic location of the bankruptcy case?

Answer: No.

Question: If you represented the client in the 12 months prepetition, disclose

your billing rates and material financial terms for the prepetition engagement, including any adjustments during the 12 months prepetition. If your billing rates and material financial terms have changed postpetition, explain the difference and the reasons for the

difference.

Answer: During the 12 month prepetition period, TLo represented and provided

legal services to the Debtors mainly pursuant to the agreement dated October 25, 2012 with, among others, Gawker Media LLC and covered the Middle District of Florida, Pinellas County Circuit and Second District Court of Appeal, and other similar lawsuits filed against Gawker Media

LLC and others.

Question: Has your client approved your prospective budget and staffing plan,

and, if so for what budget period?

Answer: TLO and the Debtors are currently working on a budget and staffing plan

for TLO's work for the Debtors. The budget contemplates that TLO will assist the Debtor with the litigations in which TLO already represents the Debtors. The budget necessarily involves a projection of future events with limited information and is subject to change as the case develops. The Debtors anticipate a budget and staffing plan will be approved by the

Debtors in the near future.

27. No promises have been received by TLO, or any partner, counsel, or

associate of TLO, as to payment or compensation in connection with these chapter 11 cases other

than in accordance with the provisions of the Fee Guidelines.

- 28. TLO has not shared or agreed to share any of its compensation from the Debtors with any person, other than with partners, counsel, associates, or other employees of TLO as permitted by section 504 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 29. TLO will use reasonable efforts to coordinate with the Debtors' other retained professionals to avoid any unnecessary duplication of services.

I declare under penalty of perjury that, to the best of my knowledge and after reasonable inquiry, the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 25th day of July, 2016.

Gregg D. Thomas

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# Exhibit 1

## SCHEDULE 1

## **List of Schedules**

<u>Schedule</u>	<u>Category</u>
1(a)	Debtors and Trade Names
1(b)	Current and Recent Former Directors and Officers
1(c)	Potential Contract Counterparties
1(d)	Insurers
1(e)	Other Interested Parties
1(f)	Landlords
1(g)	Litigants
1(h)	Professionals
1(i)	Shareholders
1(j)	Significant Customers
1(k)	Significant Unsecured Creditors
1(1)	Significant Vendors
1(m)	Taxing Authorities
1(n)	U.S. Trustee and Key Court Personnel for the Southern District of New York
1(o)	Utilities
1(p)	Employees and Independent Contractors

## SCHEDULE 1(a)

## **Debtors and Trade Names**

Gawker Media Group, Inc.	
Gawker Media LLC	
Kinja Kft.	
Blogwire Hungary Intellectual Property Licensing LL	C
Blogwire Hungary Kft.	
Gawker.Com	
Blogwire Hungary Intellectual Property Licensing LLC	
Blogwire Hungary Kft.	
Curbed.com LLC	
Gawker Sales LLC	
Gawker.Com	
RGFREE	
Vox Media, Inc.	
Blogwire	
Deadspin	
Defamer	
Gawker	
Gawker Stalker	
Gizmodo	
io9	
Jalopnik	
Jezebel	
Kinja	
Kotaku	
Lifehacker	
Sploid	
Valleywag	

## SCHEDULE 1(b)

## **Current and Recent Former Directors and Officers**

Albertson, Josh

Darbyshire, Gabrielle

Denton, Nicholas

Dietrick, Heather

Epstein, Jason

Fette, Ian

Holden, William

Kidder, Scott

Plunkett, Thomas

Szasz, Peter

Tillman, Scott

Weinbrecht, Adrian

#### **SCHEDULE 1(c)**

## **Potential Contract Counterparties**

114 Fifth Avenue Ground Lessee LLC Alexandre Dohrmann

114 Fifth Owner LP Alissa Walker

204-210 Elizabeth Street LLC c/o S.W. All You Can Move SportPass Europe

Management LLC Allison Jones

204-210 Elizabth Street LLC Allison Wentz

3293 Pacific LLC

Allure Media Pty Limited

A Mediocre Corporation

AM Lab American LLC

A Mediocie Corporation

AM Lab Americas, LLC.

A Small Orange, LLC.

A Sman Orange, LLC.

Amanda Marandola

A9.com, Inc.

Amazon Services LLC

Access Inteligence, LLC Amazon Web Services, Inc.

Adam Clark Estes Amazon.com, Inc.

Adam Pash

Anastasia Weeks

Adam Weinstein

Adam Weinstein Andrassy Palota Ingatlanfogalmazo Kft.

Ad-Juster, Inc. Andrea Park

Andy Orin

Admeld, LLC
Andrew Collins
Adsfactor Holdings Limited

AdSlot Technologies, LTD.

Andrew Cush

Addrew Gorenstein Addrew January Harding

Andrew Harding
Aegon Magyarorszag Zrt.

Andrew Harding

AGIS Fire & Security Kft. Angela Alzona

AIG Angela Wang
Alan Henry Ange Marlan

Alan Kwon

Anna Merlan

Anthony Corneyala

Albert Burneko Anthony Carnevale

Aleksander Chan

Anthony Hack

Aleksander Chan

Alex Cranz

AOL Advertising Inc.

Ariana Cohen

Alex Dickinson Ariel Viera

Alex Pareene Ashley Feinberg
Alexandra Cannon Ashton Galloway

Alexandra Philippides

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Atlantic Metro Communications II, Inc. Clover Hope

Attila Illes ClubW

Ava Gyurina Colleen McMillan
Balazs Keki Colliers International

BarkBox, Inc. Colliers International Kft.

Barry Petchesky Coltiers Nemzetkozi Ingattanuzemeltet6 es

Ben Regenspan Kezel6 Kft.

BlueApron.com Combat Flip Flops, LLC.

Brainy Labs, LLC

Brandon McCoy

Comic Cartel

ComScore, Inc.

Brendan O'Connor Corporate Communications Bt.

Bridget Brown Courtenay O'Connor

Bryan Lufkin Daniel Morgan

Bryan Menegus

C&G Group Kft c/o Brody House Group

Darren Orf

Dashlane Inc.

Cadreon, LLC. DataGram

Caitleen Weaver Datagram Incorporated

Camila Cabrer

Camilla Baker

Casey Speer

Dave McKenna

David Tracy

Dayna Evans

Casper Sleep Inc. Devin Clark

Catherine LeClair Diana Moskovitz

Cecilia D'Anastasio

Chad Bernstein

Diane Kelly

Diego Pineda

Chelsey Hoffman DineInFresh, Inc. dba Plated

Cheryl Eddy Dollar Shave Club, Inc.

Chris Neveu DOUBLECLICK

Chris Person Dr. Torzsa Peter Bt.

Chris Vespoli DreamHost

Christina Blacken

ClickMeter

Drew Magary

Driftaway Inc.

ClickStream Earnest Inc.

Cloudinary Ltd. Eleanor Shechet

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Elisa Solinas Gorilla Nation Media, LLC

Emily Ambruso Grace Robertson

Emily Herzig Graze Inc.

Emma Carmichael Green Fox Academy

Emprese Cedente Greg Howard
Eric Goldfarb Greg Lopez

Eric Ravenscraft GroupDynamics Kft

Erika Audie Gunnar Optiks
Erin Gloria Ryan Gyorgy Bokros
Erin Pettigrew Hajtas Pajtas Kft.

Esther Inglis-Arkell Handy.com
Ethan Sommer Hannah Keyser
Evan Narcisse Happy Socks
Eyal Ebel Heather Dietrick

F451 Heather Hynes F451 fka Spicy Media Editora Ltda Heidi Grothaus

F451 Media Editora Ltda. HelloFresh

Fabiola Lara Hillary Crosley

Facebook Ireland Limited Hostgator.com, LLC.

Facebook, Inc. Huckberry
Fastly, Inc. Hunter Slaton

Federal Insurance Company Ian Fette
Fluxmob, LLC. IDrive Inc.

Framebridge, Inc.

Ilona Bilevych
Fritzie Andrade

Incisive Ltd

Future Publishing Limited Incisive VNU Limited dba Incisive Incisive

Gabrielle Bluestone Ltd

GeekFuel, LLC.

Germain Lussier

Incisive VNU Ltd
Index Exchange Inc.

Giri Nathan Infobahn Inc.

Globalway Participacoes Ltda. Integral Ad Science, Inc.

Gloria Clark
Google Inc.

IseeQ Kft.

J.K Trotter

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Jake InferreraJustin CrossJalsovszky LawJustin Potter

James Bartus JW Player / LongTail Ad Solutions, Inc.

James Bit Design Kaila Hale-Stern
James Delgiudice Kanwar Gill
Jamie Weber Kara Brown

JapanCrateKargo Global, Inc.Jared AuslanderKarma Mobility Inc.

Jason ParhamKate DriesJason SchreierKate KnibbsJason TorchinskyKate Lovejoy

Jay Hathaway Katharine Trendacosta Jeffrey Hilder Kathryn McGinnis Jennifer Ouellette Katie Drummond Jia Tolentino Kavitha Reddy Jillian Marie Lucas Kelly Conaboy Jim Boos Kelly Faircloth Jim Cooke Kelly Monson Jim Cooke Kelly Stout

Joanna Rothkopf Kerrie Uthoff
Joel Johnson Kevin Draper

John Appel Kid Thursday LLC., dba Staus Audio

John Cook Kirk Hamilton

John Gelini Kixer

Kolozsvari Timea Jordan Sargent Josh Bottino Kravitha Reddy Josh Laurito Krux Digital, Inc. Joshua Albertson Lacey Donohue Lauren Bertolini Judy Steinbach Julia Alvidrez Leah Beckmann Julian Muller Leah Finnegan Julianne Escobedo Shepherd LendingTree, LLC.

Jung Sin Lindsay Chipman

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Lindsey Jaffe Mia Libby
Lisa Bolano Michael Fahey
LiveIntent, Inc. Michael Kuntz
LiveRail, Inc. Michael Lindsay

LOLA Michael Nunez
Lucy Haller Michael Orell
Madeleine Davies Michael Roselli
Madeleine Stone Michele LaFauci

Madison Plus Select, Inc.Michelle ChiangMalcolm ReadMike BallabanMandy MandelsteinMikolaj Szabo

Margaret Taormina Ministry of Supply
Marina Galperina Miranda Langrehr

Mario Aguilar Moat, Inc.

Maritza Sanche Mobiles Republic, Inc.

Mark Weldon Mollie Horan

Market Halsey Urban Renewal, LLC. Moore Stephens Hezicomp Kft.

MarkMonitor Inc. Mott & Bow Matt Hardigree MoviePass

Matt Novak MVMT Watches

Matthew Hamer Nameaction Brasil Serv de Inter Ltda ME

Matthew Kulper NameAction Inc.

Mediagene, Inc. Nandita Raghuram

MediaGene, Inc. fka Infobahn, Inc. Natasha Vargas-Cooper

MediaMind Technologies, Inc.

Nathan Grayson

Megan Gilbert NatureBox

Megbizott Nervora Digital Media Group, FZ-LLC

Melissa Green NetMediaEurope

Melissa Murray Netus Media Pty Limited dba Allure Media

Merch Direct, LLC Pty LTD

Merchant Importação, Exportação e Nevora Digital Media Group

Comercio, Ltda - ME

NewsCred, Inc.

MeUndies

Nicholas Murphy

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Nick Stango Rob Harvilla
Noble People Robert Finger
OCP Collective Corp. dba Adcade, Inc. Ryan Brown

Omar Kardoudi S&T Consulting Hungary Kft.

OnMarc Media Sam Biddle
Operative Media, Inc. Sam Scherer
Oppenheim Ugyvedi Iroda Sam Woolley
Opportune LLP Samantha Lagani
Optimizely, Inc. Samer Kalaf
Oriole Media Corporation dba Juice Mobile Samuel Griffel

Oscar Z. Ianello Associates, Inc.

Owen & Fred Corp.

Pacific Shaving Company

Parachute Home

Sarah Wiest

Scott Kidder

Sean Buckley

Patricia Hernadez

Sean MacDonald

Patrick Ballester SeatGeek

Patrick Klepek Shane Roberts
Patrick Laffoon Shep McAllister

Patrick Redford Shopify

Paul Sundue SimpleReach, Inc.

PAX Skillshare, Inc.

Percona, Inc. Skimbit Limited

Perfect World Entertainment SkimBit LTD.

Peri Hochwald SmartFX

Pixel Media Asia Limited SocialFlow, Inc.
Platinum Rye, LLC. Sophie Kleeman

Pop Chart Lab Soundfreaq
Poprageous Specless, LLC.

Puja Patel Spicy Media Editora LTDA

Quench USA, Inc. SpruceWares

Quip NYC Inc.Squarespace, Inc.Rhone Apparel Inc.Stackcommerce

Riley MacLeod Staq, Inc.

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Starcom SMG Tom Ley

Stassa Edwards Tom Plunkett
Stephanie Schrader Tom Scocca

Stephen Totilo Tommy Craggs

Steve Climaco Toth Eva Nagykanizsa
Steven Polletta Tremor Video, Inc.

Stowawy Cosmetics UCMS Group Hungary Kft.

STS Meida, Inc. Udemy.com

Stuart Cheshire Veronica de Souza
Sultana Khan Victor Jeffreys
Superdry Wholesale, LLC Viddler, Inc.

Suzy Kuzy, LLC. VNU Business Media Europe Limited

Szolgaltato Waves Gear, LLC.

Taboola Inc. We Work
Tamas Neltz Wesley Siler

Tara Jacoby WeWork LA LLC
Taylor Berman Whitson Gordon
Technorati, Inc. William Arkin
Terra Networks Brasil S.A. William Haisley

TGT William Turton

The Rubicon Project, Inc.

Wine Awesomeness
The Sasquatch Soap Co., LLC. dba Dr.

Wrights Media, LLC

Squatch Writers Guild of America, East

The Status Audio

Yannick LeJacq
Thorin Klosowski

Zach Custer

Tim Burke Zachary Connett

Time Shred Services, Inc.

Zoe Stahl

Times Internet Limited

## SCHEDULE 1(d)

### **Insurers**

Aegon Magyarorszag Zrt.

AIG Europe Limited

Dewitt Stern Group, Inc.

Federal Insurance Company

Hartford Casualty Insurance Company

**Hudson Insurance Company** 

National Union Fire Insurance Co. of Pittsburgh PA

United Healthcare Insurance Company

## **SCHEDULE 1(e)**

### **Other Interested Parties**

Cerberus Business Finance LLC

Houlihan Lokey, Inc.

K&H Bank

Latham & Watkins

Prime Clerk LLC

Riemer & Braunstein, LLP

Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP

Securities & Exchange Commission

Securities & Exchange Commission – NY Office

Silicon Valley Bank

Sullivan & Cromwell LLP

US VC Partners LP

## SCHEDULE 1(f)

## **Landlords**

Andrassy Palota Ingatlanforgalmazo Korlatolt Felelossegu Tarsasag 114 Fifth Owner LP

### **SCHEDULE 1(g)**

#### **Litigants**

Aulistar Mark

Andrew Hudson

Zachary Cianflone

Lindsay MaHarry

Katherine Castellana

Elizabeth Nadybal

Chelsea Lo Pinto

Tim Barribeau

Patrick Frawley

Elizabeth Weinbloom

Kristin Chan

Samuel Julian

Brian Colgan

Benjamin Dorson

Rachel Atwood

Michael Kennelly

Alyssa Bereznak

Lily Newman

Kwame Opam

Terry Gene Bollea

Mitchell Williams

Meanith Huon

Ashley Terril

Charles Johnson and Got News, LLC

Teresa Thomas

Shiva Ayyadurai

Christopher Sadowski

#### **SCHEDULE 1(h)**

### **Professionals**

Akerman LLP

Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLC

Citrin Cooperman & Co., LLP

Giskan Solotaroff & Anderson LLP

**Goldin Solutions** 

Jalsovszky Law Firm

John Duncan

Klasko Immigration Law Partners, LLP

Levine Sullivan Koch & Schulz, LLP

Maples & Calder

Morrison Cohen LLP

Newmark & Co. Real Estate, Inc.

Oppenheim Law Firm

Opportune LLP

Proskauer Rose LLP

Trifolium LLC

Wilk Auslander

Zwillgen PLLC

#### **SCHEDULE 1(i)**

#### **Shareholders**

Jefferson, Whitney

Berman, Taylor Hamer, Matt
Bertolini, Lauren Hardigree, Matt
Blakeley, Richard Erand Holmes, Anna

Brown, Ryan Kang, Daniel
Carmichael, Emma Kidder, Scott
Carmon, Irin Kozma, Jozsef

Chan, Casey
Lam, Brian
Coen, Jessica
Layne, Ken
Cooke, Jim
Lehnhoff, Jim
Craggs, Tommy
Leitch, Will

Crecente, Brian Lisanti, Mark
D'Addario, John Lopez, Greg
Darbyshire, Gaby Ma, Jesse
Daulerio, Albert McGill, Erin

DelGiudice, James Nachlin, Jim
Denton, Nick Newitz, Annalee

Diaz, Jesus Nolan, Hamilton
Dietrick, Heather O'Connor, Maureen

Dimmitt, Elizabeth

Pash, Adam

Pimmitt, Genevieve

Petrány, Máté

Puncan, John

Pettigrew, Erin

Plunkett, Tom

Furman, Eliot, as custodian for Alexander
Tiberius Furman under the NYUTMA
Robischon, Noah

Futrelle, Genevieve Schreier, Jason
Giacoman, Gabriela Schwartz, Diane
Gorenstein, Andrew

Greenmount Creek Limited Scocca, Thomas

Hale-Stern, Kaila

Bluestone, Gabrielle

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Sicha, Choire Henry, Alan
Spinelli, Mike Hilder, Jeff
Steele, Lockhart Jeffries, Victor
Stein, Sadie Juzwiak, Rich
Takayama, Greg Kéki, Balázs

Tate, Ryan Knibbs, Katharine Thomas, Owen Körtesi, Gáspár Toder, Matthew Laurito, Josh Trapani, Gina Libby, Mia US VC Partners LP Magary, Drew Vuong, Phillip Marchman, Tim Wert, Ray McAllister, Shep Winkelman (Ortega), Samantha McKenna, Dave Woerner, Meredith Mittelhammer, Eric

Woerner, Meredith Mittelhammer, Er
Albertson, Josh Morgan, Daniel
Annis, Rose Neltz, Tamas
Baker, Camie Nevins, Maxwell

Batty, Chris Novak, Matt

Bodnár, István

Burke, Tim

Parham, Jason

Climaco, Steve

Petchesky, Barry

Climaco, Steve Petchesky, Barry
Cook, John Popken, Ben
Curtis, Dustin Price, John
Donohue, Lacey Reddy, Kavi
Drummond, Katie Regenspan, Ben
Fette, Ian Roberts, Shane

George, Patrick Sargent, Jordan
Georgopulos, Steph Sommer, Ethan
Gonzalez, Robert Sundue, Paul
Graham, Kevin Szász, Péter

Grothaus, Heidi Szatmári, András Hathaway, Jay Taomina, Margaret

O'Connor, Courtenay

Biddle, Sam

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Tiku, Nitasha

Totilo, Stephen

Trotter, JK

Udvardi, Ramóna

Walker, Alissa

Weaver, Caity

Weinstein, Adam

Wentz, Allison

#### **SCHEDULE 1(j)**

### **Significant Customers**

20th Century Fox Earnest

360i Empowering Media LA
A9.com Inc. (Amazon Match Buy) Empowering Media NY

Accordant Media Essence
Adslot f451 - US
Aegis Group Facebook
Alliance Games Factorylabs

Allure Media - GM Fallon

Amazon Future Publishing Ltd (US)

Amazon Commerce Revenue General Mills, Inc.

AOL One Google (BizDev)

Asana (Customer) Graze
Assembly Havas

Baru Advertising Horizon Media

Blue Apron HostGator
Blue Wheel Media Hover

Bluehost HTC Blinkfeed

Brigade Marketing IBM

Casper Indochino
Centro Initiative LA
Cisco Initiative NY

Cramer-Krasselt Interpublic Group of Companies

Criteo iSocket, Inc.

Crossmedia ITVS

Desk.com Kepler Group
Dialect Inc Ketchum
DigitasLBi Kovel Fuller

Dollar Shave Club Kruskopf & Company
Draftkings Liquid Advertising

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LivWell SquareSpace
Logmein.com StackSocial
MarkLogic Status Audio

McGarrah Jessee Sterling Rice Group

Me Undies Superdry Wholesale LLC

Mediagene Inc - US Taboola (Biz Dev)

Mediasmith Tangible Media

Mediastorm, LLC TaxFyle

Merkley and Partners

The Garage Team Mazda

MillerCoors TubeMogul

MNI UCB
MODCo Media Udemy
Mullen Varidesk

NameCheap Viewster.com

Newscred VOX Media - Curbed Investment

Nokia VSN

NVIDIA WavesGear
Omnicom Group weBoost

Pereira & Odell Wieden & Kennedy

Petrol Wildcard Properties LLC

PGR Media WPP

Protein Wright's Media

Publicis Groupe Zeno Group

R/West

Rachael Piper Consulting

Randomhouse

**RED Interactive Agency** 

Rodger's Townsend

RPA Rubicon Skillshare

Spacetime Media

Slack

#### **SCHEDULE 1(k)**

## **Significant Unsecured Creditors**

Ad-Juster, Inc. (media)

JW Player (Longtail Ad Solutions, Inc.)

ADP Workforce Now Katherine Fry

Akerman LLP Kinja Accounts Payable

Alex Palmer Krux Digital

Andrew Harding L-Cut Digital Media, Inc.

AOL Advertising Market Halsey Urban Renewal, LLC

Associated Press Marlena Agency Inc.

Blane Bachelor Medialink

Brandtale Merrill Communications, LLC
CDW Direct Metropolitan Cleaning, LLC

Cloudinary Ltd. Moat Inc.

Concur Technologies, Inc.

Morrison Cohen LLP

Corbis Corporation Newmark & Co. Real Estate, Inc.

Corey Foster Nick Wong Photography

Creative Circle, LLC. NSONE Inc.

DataGram Operative Media, Inc

DoubleVerify, Inc.

DRH Internet Inc

Optimizely, Inc.

Pacific Coast News

Equinox Fitness Clubs - Corp Accts Plant Specialists LLC

Fastly QZZR

Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson REDBOOKS

LLP

Getty Images

Risk Strategies Company
Shenker & Bonaparte, LLP

Giaco Furino SimpleReach, Inc.

Google Inc. (DoubleClick) Sizmek Technologies Inc.

Google, Inc. (Analytics)

Specless

Hunter Slaton

In Fette Staton STAQ, INC.

Submarine Leisure Club, Inc. (Wirecutter)

Jelle Claeys Automotive Artwork Submersive Media

Joshua M Lees

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The Hartford
The Oliver Group
Viddler, Inc.

#### **SCHEDULE 1(1)**

### Significant Vendors

114 Fifth Avenue Kforce Inc.

ADP PayEx Kornhaber Brown, LLC

Advanced Electronic Solutions, Inc. Lay It Out, Inc.

AMA Consulting Engineers P.C. Leiberts Royal Green Appliances Inc.

AMEX Corporate GM - 01006 Lewis Rice LLC

Andrew Liszewski LionTree Advisors LLC

Apple Inc. (media)

LJ DUFFY, Inc.

Baby Llama Productions LLC Maples & Calder (GM LLC)

Bajibot Media NetRatings, LLC

Big Mango, Inc. Netsuite, Inc.

Bird & Bird LLP NVE, Inc.

Brannock & Humphries OCP Collective Corp.

Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP Olson Kundig Architects

Cannes Trip 2015 Olson Kundig Interiors

Catalyst OnMarc Media Inc.

Cerberus Capital Management LP Opportune LLP

ComScore Inc. Redscout LLC

Con Edison (210) Robert Half

CytexOne Technology, LLC Ropes & Gray LLP

Dynect, Inc Santa Monica Air Center, Inc.

Emma C Lanigan (Cookson) Structure Tone

Fidelity 401k SW Management LLC

Harder Mirell & Abrams Tangent Vector, Inc.

HeartWork, Inc.

Thomas & Locicero PL

Houlihan Lokey Treasury of the United States

Tapestry Associates LLC

Howard Kennedy TrueForm Concrete, LLC

Inform Interiors Veritas Pictures, Inc.

Jesus Diaz (vendor) Versus LLC

Hatch Content, LLC

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Vizu Corporation

Voya Financial 401K

WB Wood NY

Young America Capital

## SCHEDULE 1(m)

## **Taxing Authorities**

Internal Revenue Service
Budapesti Önkormányzat
Hungary National Tax Authority
New York City Department of Finance
New York State Commissioner of Taxation and Finance

#### **SCHEDULE 1(n)**

## U.S. Trustee and Key Court Personnel for the Southern District of New York

Cecilia G. Morris Paul K. Schwartzberg

James L. Garrity Richard C. Morrissey

Martin Glenn Serene Nakano

Mary Kay Vyskocil Susan Arbeit

Michael E. Wiles Susan Golden

Robert D. Drain Sylvester Sharp
Robert E. Grossman Victor Abriano

Sean H. Lane William K. Harrington

Shelley C. Chapman

Shelley C. Chapman

Alicia Leonhard
Amanda Cassara

Stuart M. Bernstein

Andrea B. Schwartz

Andy Velez-Rivera

Anna M. Martinez

Brian S. Masumoto

Cheuk M. Ng

Danny A. Choy

Ercilia A. Mendoza

Greg M. Zipes

Guy A. Van Baalen

Ilusion Rodriguez

Kathleen Schmitt

Linda A. Riffkin

Lisa Penpraze

Maria Catapano

Mary V. Moroney

Myrna R. Fields

Nadkarni Joseph

## SCHEDULE 1(0)

## **Utilities**

114 Fifth Avenue Ground Lessee Atlantic Metro Communications Benefit Resource, Inc. Cogent Communications Con Edison ShoreTel Inc.

#### **SCHEDULE 1(p)**

### **Employees and Independent Contractors**

Asd Mario Aguilar

Joshua Albertson

Angelica Alzona

Fritzie Andrade

Erika Audie

Jared Auslander

Devin Clark

Gloria Clark

Steve Climaco

Ariana Cohen

Andrew Collins

Zachary Connett

Ilene Baker John Cook
Michael Ballaban James Cooke
Patrick Ballester Alexandra Cranz
Chad Bernstein Hillary Crosley
Lauren Bertolini Justin Cross
Sam Biddle Andrew Cush
Ilona Bilevych Zach Custer

Christina Blacken Madeleine Davies
Gabrielle Bluestone Maritza De Leon
James Boos Veronica de Souza
Joshua Bottino Sarah Dedewo
Robert Bricken Ernest Deeb
Ryan Brown Nick Denton

Kara Brown Alexander Dickinson
Bridget Brown Heather Dietrick
Timothy Burke Alexandre Dohrmann

Albert Burneko

Camila Cabrer

Alexandra Cannon

Kevin Draper

Kathryn Dries

Emma Carmichael Katherine Drummond

Anthony Carnevale Eyal Ebel
Casey Chan Cheryl Eddy
Michelle Chiang Stassa Edwards

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Adam Estes Samer Kalaf

Michael Fahey Omar Kardoudi Segarra

Georgia Faircloth

Ashley Feinberg

Ian Fette

Robert Finger

Ashton Galloway-Taylor

Marina Galperina

John Gelini

Hannah Keyser

Sophie Kleeman

Patrick Klepek

Thorin Klosowski

Michele Lafauci

Patrick Laffoon

Samantha Lagani

Patrick George Miranda Langrehr
Kanwar Gill Joshua Laurito
Ariel Gononsky Catherine LeClair

George Grayson Thomas Ley
Melissa Green Mia Libby

Samuel Griffel Michael Lindsay
Heidi Grothaus Katelyn Lovejoy
Ava Gyurina Germain Lussier
Anthony Hack Riley MacLeod
William Haisley Andrew Magary

Lucy Haller Amanda Mandelstein
Kirk Hamilton Timothy Marchman

Matt Hardigree Alex Mason

**Andrew Harding** Shepherd McAllister Alan Henry Kathryn McGinnis Patricia Hernandez-Ramos David McKenna **Emily Herzig** Colleen McMillan Clover Hope Bryan Menegus Mollie Horan Anna Merlan Maria Misra Heather Hynes Attila Illes Kelly Monson Jacob Inferrera Daniel Morgan

Victor Jeffreys Diana Moskovitz

Richard Juzwiak Julian Muller

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Samuel Scherer

Nick Murphy Michael Roselli Melissa Murray Joanna Rothkopf

Evan Narcisse William Sansom

Giri Nathan Jordan Sargent

Chris Neveu Stephanie Schrader

Hamilton Nolan Jason Schreier Matthew Novak Jillian Schulz

Michael Nunez Taryn Schweitzer

Brendan O'Connor Thomas Scocca
Courtenay O'Connor Eleanor Shechet

Michael Orell Julianne Shepherd

Darren Orf Hunter Slaton

Andrew Orin Elisa Solinas

Raphael Orlove Ethan Sommer

Jennifer Ouellette Casey Speer

Alexander Pareene Zoe Stahl

Andrea Park Nicholas Stango
Adam Pash Judith Steinbach
Puja Patel Madeleine Stone

Christopher Person Kelly Stout

Barry Petchesky Richard Sundue

Alexandra Philippides Margaret Taormina

Diego Pineda Jia Tolentino

Steven Polletta Jason Torchinsky
John Price Stephen Totilo

Nandita Raghuram David Tracy

Eric Ravenscraft Katharine Trendacosta

Kavitha Reddy Joseph Trotter
Patrick Redford William Turton
Benjamin Regenspan Kerrie Uthoff

Shane Roberts Christopher Vespoli

Grace Robertson Alissa Walker

Tamas Neltz

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Angela Wang Jamie Condliffe

Jamie Weber Chris Mills

Anastasia Weeks James Whitbrook

Allison Wentz David Nield

Samuel Woolley Kathryn Jezer-Morton

András Szatmári Madeleine Collier
Attila Kocsis Fruzsina Kuhari
Balázs Kéki Robert Stokes

Balázs Pőcze Adam Kovac

Dmitry Lambrianov Jared "Jay Allen" Goodwin

Gábor Kacsik Anthony Dejolde
Gáspár Körtesi Carlos Rebato
György Bokros Carlos Hierro
Ildikó Kriston Matias Martinez

István Bodnár Eduardo Marin
János Hardi Miguel Redondo
László Heves Zolani Stewart

Levente Molnár Reshma Bhai

Linda Bucsánszki Manisha Aggarwal
Luca Németh Lindsay Handmer
Márton Borlay Daniel Strudwick

Mikhail Mitrofanov Eva Jurczyk
Olivér Kovács Mihir Patkar

Péter Szász Toshihisa Nakamura

Ramóna Udvardi Kirsten O'Regan Szabolcs Vida Alexandra Nursall Szilvia Németh Nicholas Cameron

Zoltán Balázs Ralph Jones

Zoltán Kalmár Elizabeth Edgar
George Dvorsky Rawiya Elkhadir
Luke Plunkett Ian Dransfield
Brian Ashcraft Stefan Janke

Andrew Liszewski Mark Wilson

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Sniff Petrol Limited Halmar Sveinbjornsson

James Fell Amit Reut
Peter Ryan Rosa Gregori
Manuel Mendez Perez Sarah Moroz
Angel Jiminez Jason Richards
Jacob Rose Ravi Somaiya
Bram Gieben Reut Amit

Eva Holland Michael "Massoud" Martin

Nathan Thompson Fariha Roisin

Priya Elias William Herkewitz

Scaachi Koul Lev Hellebust (Bratishenko)

Helen Appleyard Pranav Dixit
Omar Karduodi Segarra Danny Allen
Cara Ellison Karan Atul Shah
Estelle Tang James Baker

Anupa Mistry Gary Cutlack

Brodie Lancaster Adelaide Dugdale
Jess Shanahan Katherine Hannaford

Jesus Diaz

Herbert Lui (Wonder Shuttle Media, Inc)

Graham Ruthven

Stacy May Fowles

Andrew Gibney

Brian Hogg

Andrew James

Chris Meveigh

Apoorva Prasad

Michelle Tofi

Daniel Harris Yareniz Saavedra Padilla

Alex Hess Carlos Risco

Chris Koentges Elias Notario Perez
Kevin O'Brien Eric Tecayehuatl
Achal Prabhala Robert Boffard
David Sommer Guy Combs
Monica Heisey Joel Meadows
Sara Mcculloch Chris Harris
Jakob Wenngren Guy Porepp

Alex Bejerstrand Anthony Mark Dewhurst

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Peter Orosz Ollie Barder
Ryan Pierce Simon Mapp

Neill Watson Andrew Mcmillen

George Williams David Veselka
Chris Harris Kevin Mahon
Natasha Chenier David Gilson
Esther Sassaman Mark O'Neill

Luke MaloneSpanner SpencerMikhail MitrofanovTom Cassell

Leo Wichtowski Kenneth Gibson Kevin Mahon Clare Kane

Simon Parkin

Quintin Smith

Clare Kane

Zolani Stewart

Josephine Huetlin

Kathleen Williams

## Exhibit 2

The following lists names of entities or individuals searched from Schedule 1 where the entity, and/or a parent or affiliate of the entity, is a current or former client of TLo, on matters as described herein.

Searched Entity	Relationship	
The Associated Press	Current client in matters wholly unrelated to Debtors or to these chapter 11 cases	
Casper Sleep Inc.	Current client in matters wholly unrelated to Debtors or to these chapter 11 cases	
AIG	Current client in matters wholly unrelated to Debtors or to these chapter 11 cases	
Hartford Casualty Insurance Company	Current client in matters wholly unrelated to Debtors or to these chapter 11 cases	
20 <sup>th</sup> Century Fox	Current client in matters wholly unrelated to Debtors or to these chapter 11 cases	
Kforce Inc.	Current client in matters wholly unrelated to Debtors or to these chapter 11 cases	

## Exhibit 3

The following lists the names of entities or individuals searched from Schedule 1, where the entity, and/or a parent or affiliate of the entity, is a current or former client of TLo, on matters as described herein.

Searched Entity	Relationship	
Albert Daulerio	Current client; co-defendant in matters involving Debtor described above	
Nick Denton	Current client; co-defendant in matters involving Debtor described above	
Heather Dietrick	Current client; petitioner in an interlocutory appellate matter in <i>Bollea I</i>	

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## Exhibit C

**Holden Declaration** 

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK				
: Chapter 11				
: Case No. 16	-11700 (SMB)			
	ninistered)			
7(	x : : Chapter 11 : : Case No. 16- : : (Jointly Adm			

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

DECLARATION OF WILLIAM D. HOLDEN IN SUPPORT OF DEBTORS' APPLICATION PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 327(e), 328(a) AND 330 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE, BANKRUPTCY RULES 2014 and 2016, AND LOCAL RULES 2014-1 AND 2016-1 FOR ENTRY OF AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE RETENTION AND EMPLOYMENT OF THOMAS & LOCICERO PL AS SPECIAL LITIGATION COUNSEL EFFECTIVE NUNC PRO TUNC TO THE PETITION DATE

- I, William D. Holden, being duly sworn, hereby declare as follows:
- 1. I am the Chief Restructuring Officer of Gawker Media LLC ("<u>Gawker Media</u>"), located at 114 Fifth Avenue, 2d Floor, New York, New York 10014.
- 2. I submit this declaration (this "<u>Declaration</u>") in support of the Debtors' Application Pursuant to Sections 327(e), 328(a) and 330 of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rules 2014 and 2016, and Local Rules 2014-1 and 2016-1 For Entry of an Order Authorizing the Retention and Employment of Thomas & LoCicero PL ("<u>TLo</u>") as Special Litigation Counsel Effective *Nunc Pro Tunc* to the Petition Date (the "<u>Application</u>"). The facts set forth herein are based on my personal knowledge or information provided to me by the Debtors' management,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The last four digits of the taxpayer identification number of the debtors are: Gawker Media LLC (0492); Gawker Media Group, Inc. (3231); and Kinja Kft. (5056). The offices of Gawker Media LLC and Gawker Media Group, Inc. are located at 114 Fifth Avenue, 2d Floor, New York, NY 10011. Kinja Kft.'s offices are located at Andrassy ut 66. 1062 Budapest, Hungary.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings set forth in the Application.

employees or members of my staff working under my supervision, other professionals, and my review of the books and records and relevant documents.

#### The Debtors' Selection of Thomas & LoCicero PL

- 3. Thomas & LoCicero PL ("<u>TLo</u>") is proposed to serve as special litigation counsel to the Debtors, responsible for the matters described in Paragraph 11 of the Application. The Debtors recognize that a careful selection should be made when selecting and managing any counsel acting for debtors in a chapter 11 case, to ensure that the professionals are subject to the same client-driven market forces, scrutiny, and accountability as professionals in non-bankruptcy engagements.
- 4. Here, TLo has been engaged by the Debtors since 2012, for what were non-bankruptcy matters, and TLo was subjected to the client-driven market forces and scrutiny when it was originally retained. The contemplated engagement continues TLo's engagement on the same terms, except for the oral modification eliminating the cap on hours TLo could incur.
- 5. In addition, under the contemplated engagement, TLo will charge only those actual and necessary expenses, for which it bills its clients, incurred in connection with the rendering of legal services described in the Application, by category and nature of services rendered.
- 6. It is my understanding that when TLo was originally retained in 2012, and when it was retained for additional matters since then, Gawker Media considered alternative law firms as part of its selection process. Gawker Media's decision to retain TLo required consideration of cost, but more importantly, its expertise in the particular subject matter of the litigation it was defending. TLo was retained in a non-bankruptcy environment, and was subjected to the competition in the non-bankruptcy marketplace when it was retained.

#### Rate Structure

7. In my capacity as Chief Restructuring Officer, I am responsible, along with Heather Dietrick (General Counsel), for monitoring outside counsel retained by the Debtors in the ordinary course of business. As discussed below, I, or members of my team, or employees working under my supervision, are responsible for reviewing the invoices regularly submitted by TLo.

#### Cost Supervision

8. The Debtors and TLo are working on a prospective budget for the period from the Petition Date to 120 days after the Petition Date, recognizing that in the course of a large chapter 11 case, it is possible that there may be a number of unforeseen fees and expenses that will need to be addressed by the Debtors and TLo. The Debtors further recognize that it is their responsibility to monitor closely the billing practices of their counsel to ensure the fees and expenses paid by the estate remain consistent with the Debtors' expectations and the exigencies of these chapter 11 cases. The Debtors will continue to review the invoices that TLo regularly submits, and together with TLo, amend the budget periodically, as the Actions and the Adversary Proceeding develop.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Dated: July 25, 2016

William D. Holden